

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The claims are not further amended, and are presented below for the convenience of the Examiner.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver arranged to form a network of communicating low power radio frequency transceivers comprising:
a transmitter for transmitting packets of data; and
means for controlling the transmitter to transmit a series of messages of a first type outside the network of transceivers,
means for punctuating the series of messages of a first type with messages of a second type, transmitted within the network of transceivers, for maintaining synchronization.
2. (Original) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 1 arranged to operate as a master of the radio network of slave transceivers.
3. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 1 wherein the network of transceivers uses a first frequency hopping sequence.
4. (Original) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 3 wherein the messages of a first type transmitted outside the network of transceivers are transmitted using a second frequency hopping sequence.
5. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 1 wherein the messages of the second type are broadcast.
6. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 1 wherein the means for punctuating, punctuates the series of messages of a first type with a message of a second type periodically.
7. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 1 wherein the messages of the second type do not initiate a response from any of the transceivers in the network.

8. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 1 wherein the messages of the second type comprise a synchronization word dependent upon the identity of the transmitting low power radio frequency transceiver.

9. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 1 wherein messages of the second type are transmitted at a frequency dependent upon the identity of the transmitting low power radio frequency transceiver.

10. (Previously Presented) A method of maintaining synchronisation in a network of communicating low power radio frequency transceivers comprising a master transceiver and at least one slave transceiver, the method comprising:

punctuating a series of messages of a first type transmitted by the master transceiver outside the network of transceivers, with messages of a second type transmitted within the network of communicating transceivers for maintaining synchronization.

11. (Previously Presented) A storage medium for data, comprising computer code for providing, in a low power radio frequency transceiver, means for punctuating transmission of a series of messages of a first type comprising a first synchronization word independent of the identity of the low power radio frequency transceiver, with messages of a second type comprising a second synchronization word dependent upon the identity of the low power radio frequency transceiver.

12. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the network of transceivers uses a first frequency hopping sequence.

13. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the messages of a first type transmitted outside the network of transceivers are transmitted using a second frequency hopping sequence.

14. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the messages of the second type are broadcast.

15. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the series of messages of a

first type are punctuated with a message of a second type periodically.

16. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the messages of the second type do not initiate a response from any of the transceivers in the network.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the messages of the second type comprise a synchronization word dependent upon the identity of the transmitting low power radio frequency transceiver.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein messages of the second type are transmitted at a frequency dependent upon the identity of the transmitting low power radio frequency transceiver.

19. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver arranged to form a network of communicating low power radio frequency transceivers comprising:

 a transmitter for transmitting packets of data;

 a controller for controlling the transmitter to transmit a series of messages of a first type outside the network of transceivers, and for punctuating the series of messages of a first type with messages of a second type, transmitted within the network of transceivers, for maintaining synchronization.

20. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 19 arranged to operate as a master of the radio network of slave transceivers.

21. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 19, wherein the network of transceivers uses a first frequency hopping sequence.

22. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 21 wherein the messages of a first type transmitted outside the network of transceivers are transmitted using a second frequency hopping sequence.

23. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 19, wherein the messages of the second type are broadcast.

24. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 19, wherein the controller punctuates the series of messages of a first type with a message of a second type periodically.

25. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 19 wherein the messages of the second type do not initiate a response from any of the transceivers in the network.

26. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 19, wherein the messages of the second type comprise a synchronization word dependent upon the identity of the transmitting low power radio frequency transceiver.

27. (Previously Presented) A low power radio frequency transceiver as claimed in claim 19, wherein messages of the second type are transmitted at a frequency dependent upon the identity of the transmitting low power radio frequency transceiver.

28. (Previously Presented) A computer program product comprising program instructions for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 10.